

Message Text

UNCLASSIFIED

PAGE 01 MOSCOW 19408 131121Z
ACTION CU-04

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 ISO-00 /017 W
----- 108073 /47

R 130838Z DEC 76
FM AMEMBASSY MOSCOW
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 2005
INFO USIA WASHDC

UNCLAS MOSCOW 19408

FOR STATE FOR CU/EE, EUR/SOV

USIA FOR IEU

E.O. 11652: N/A
TAGS: OEXC, UR
SUBJECT: AMERICAN FIELD SERVICE EXCHANGE - 1976 PARTICIPANT
JACK DE BENEDICTUS

1. EMB LEARNED DEC 9 FROM PANAM MANAGER THAT AMERICAN PARTICIPANT IN 1976 AMERICAN FIELD SERVICE EXCHANGE TEACHER PROGRAM INDULGED IN ABUSIVE LANGUAGE AND THREATS TOWARD HIM AND LOCALLY-EMPLOYED TICKETING AGENT DECEMBER 4.

2. UPON LEARNING THAT HE HAD TO PAY FOR 38 KILOS EXCESS BAGGAGE, JACK DE BENEDICTUS, AFS TEACHER ASSIGNED TO KIEV INSTITUTE OF FOREIGN LANGUAGES, OCT-NOV 1976, CLAIMED THAT AFS HAD SPECIAL ARRANGEMENT WITH PANAM EXEMPTING HIM FROM PAYMENT. ACCORDING TO PANAM MANAGER OF SERVICE AND SALES, MICHAEL LA MURAGLIA, DE BENEDICTUS DEMANDED THAT HE RETURN FROM AIRPORT RAMP TO DISCUSS PROBLEM. WHEN LA MURAGLIA INFORMED TICKET AGENT TANYA FODIONENKO THAT HE WAS BUSY WITH REGULAR PANAM FLIGHT AND 2 CHARTERS AND COULD NOT IN ANY CASE ALTER SITUATION WHEREBY PASSENGER MUST PAY EXCESS BAGGAGE CHARGES TO AEROFLOT AS PANAM MOSCOW AGENT, DE BENEDICTUS THREATENED RODIONENKO AND LA MURAGLIA WITH LOSING JOBS AS RESULT OF HIS CONNECTIONS WITH INFLUENTIAL PEOPLE.

3. DE BENEDICTUS DID NOT PAY AND DID NOT DEPART ON PA 45 AS SCHEDULED. LA MURAGLIA WAS CONFIRMED IN HIS ACTIONS BY WIRE FROM PANAM NEW YORK, AND BY PHONE FROM LOCAL REPRESENTATIVE.
UNCLASSIFIED

UNCLASSIFIED

PAGE 02 MOSCOW 19408 131121Z

DE BENEDICTUS CONTINUED "ARROGANT AND ABUSIVE" BEHAVIOR AND

REFUSED OFFER TO SEND EXCESS BAGGAGE BY PANAM 2 DAYS LATER AS FREIGHT WITH LETTER OF GUARANTEE OF PAYMENT ON ARRIVAL.

4. ALTHOUGH OTHER AIRLINE REPS REFUSED TO ACCEPT DE BENEDICTUS AS PASSENGER, LA MURAGLIA PERSUADED BRITISH AIRWAYS TO BOOK HIM ON EVENING FLIGHT DECEMBER 4, DATE DE BENEDICTUS' SOVIET VISA EXPIRED. LATTER DEPARTED "MEEK AS A LAMB" OFFERING ORAL APOLOGY, AND ASKING OTHER PASSENGERS TO ACCEPT HIS EXCESS BAGGAGE. HOWEVER, LA MURAGLIA CONCERNED ABOUT THREAT TO HIS JOB AND WANTS WRITTEN APOLOGY.

COMMENT: HEAD OF KIEV ADVANCE PARTY HAS SENT CU/EE COPY OF LETTER TO AFS' VEE GREISEN COMMENDING WORK OF DE BENEDICTUS AND OTHER TEACHERS IN KIEV. MILLS, ALSO OF KAP, HAS SENT MEMO FOR FILES TO EUR/SOV RELATING AIRPORT INCIDENT AS RECOUNTED TO HIM BY LA MURAGLIA. MAIN LINE ESSENTIALLY SAME, BUT DATE ERRONEOUS; ALL ACTIONS WERE 4 DECEMBER. IN BRIEF CONTACT WITH DE BENEDICTUS WHEN HE ARRANGED FOR DISTRIBUTION OF AMERICAN ENGLISH TEACHING AND OTHER MATERIALS TO TEACHERS AND SCHOOLS, EMBOFF FOUND HIM TO BE OUTGOING PERSONALITY, ENTHUSIACTIC ABOUT TEACHING EXPERIENCE IN S.U., AND GENERALLY PLEASANT.

MATLOCK

UNCLASSIFIED

NNN

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: n/a
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 13 DEC 1976
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: n/a
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: n/a
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment:
Disposition Date: 01 JAN 1960
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1976MOSCOW19408
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: N/A
Errors: N/A
Film Number: D760458-1129
From: MOSCOW
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1976/newtext/t19761248/aaaabpsk.tel
Line Count: 83
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Office: ACTION CU
Original Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: n/a
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: n/a
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: schwenja
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 10 JUN 2004
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <10 JUN 2004 by hattaycs>; APPROVED <17 AUG 2004 by schwenja>
Review Markings:

Margaret P. Grafeld
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
04 MAY 2006

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: AMERICAN FIELD SERVICE EXCHANGE - 1976 PARTICIPANT JACK DE BENEDICTUS
TAGS: OEXC, UR
To: STATE
Type: TE
Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 04 MAY 2006